PERIODICO EN ESPAÑOL ADENTRO

CHALLENGE

FIGHT FOR COMMUNISM · LUCHE POR EL COMUNISMO · PLP

THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST NEWSPAPER OF PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY

Volume 51 No. 15 July 24, 2019 suggested donation $1

Fight racist borders like a communist!

CARRIZO SPRINGS, TX, JULY 3—"Smash racist deportation, working people have no nation!" This international chant resounded as multiracial and multigenerational contingent of Progressive Labor party (PLP) members marched in firm formation towards a newly opened concentration camp for children, a site only 12 miles away from the Crystal City concentration camp that held Japanese, German, and Italian families during World War II. They joined liberal organizers of the protest, who kicked the protest off in a pacifist fashion: mini banners, carrying gifts of bookmarks and teddy bears, all while urging protesters to decorate a fence a hundred yards from the entrance to this Carrizo Springs child detention facility.

Liberal pacifism vs. communist militancy

It was clear that there was tension between liberals, identity centered organizations and PLP when sing-along sheets with "This Little Light of Mine" and "De Colores" were passed out. We knew that singing "This Little Light of Mine" was just a means of steering working-class anger into passivity—telling people to hold out for hope that things will change, rather than calling upon them to join in multiracial unity to defeat and destroy capitalism. PL'ers were immediately critical when these pacifist song-sheets were distributed, and when the leadership of the rally moved to sing them someone in the crowd yelled out, "WHY? NO!"

As the liberals stumbled to answer, members PLP sang "The Internationale," the communist working-class anthem, while distributing CHALLENGE and communist leaflets. PLP won the crowd over with our anthem, our chants, and our speeches, exposing the politricks of both Republican and Liberal bosses and politicians to use racism to divide the working class and super-exploit migrant workers crossing the border, for their political and financial gain.

We called upon everyone to unite and fight back against capitalist bosses. The capitalist media has been supposedly uncovering the injustices at the US-Mexico border, but the end game is basically to push workers in the U.S. into the dead-end path of voting our way into a better world. But we know better, and in an effort to spread PLP's line around building a united international working class, members took to protest against a new children's detention center in Carrizo Springs, Texas.

The squalor in these concentration camps is a holdover from the Obama era but the media focus from outlets controlled by main wing finance capital is new, as they seek to build mass movements to attack Trump, the number one threat to their decades-old blood-soaked world empire.There were approximately 100 people in attendance, including PL'ers from New York, Chicago and New Jersey.

Part of communist training

This trip to the detention facility at Carrizo Springs was a part of a week-long summer project in Texas (see page 8).

We greeted the Toyota Factory workers with communist literature, protested racist deportations again at the border crossing of Laredo and volunteered in migrant

Continued on page 3

★**EDITORIAL** *G20 Summit highlights U.S splits and decay...p 2*

★**LETTERS** *first hand reports from youth buiding solidarity...p3*

★**COLLEGE** *CUNY struggle builds student worker solidarity...p4*

★**BOSTON** *Wayfair workers lead; reject liberal bosses trap...p5*

★**COMMUNIST HISTORY** *Zina Portnova, teenage communist hero...p7*

★ **SUMMER PROJECT '19** *Texas project fights borders, builds communists...p8*

OUR FIGHT

☆Progressive Labor Party (PLP) fights to destroy capitalism and the dictatorship of the capitalist class. We organize workers, soldiers and youth into a revolutionary movement for communism.

☆The dictatorship of the working class — communism—can provide a lasting solution to the disaster that is today's world for billions of people. This cannot be done through electoral politics, but requires a revolutionary movement and a mass Red Army led by PLP.

☆Worldwide capitalism, in its relentless drive for profit, inevitably leads to war, fascism, poverty, disease, starvation and environmental destruction. The capitalist class, through its state power — governments, armies, police, schools and culture — maintains a dictatorship over the world's workers. The capitalist dictatorship supports, and is supported by, the anti-working-class ideologies of racism, sexism, nationalism, individualism and religion.

☆While the bosses and their mouthpieces claim "communism is dead," capitalism is the real failure for billions worldwide. Capitalism returned to Russia and China because socialism retained many aspects of the profit system, like wages and privileges. Russia and China did not establish communism.

☆Communism means working collectively to build a worker-run society. We will abolish work for wages, money and profits. While capitalism needs unemployment, communism needs everyone to contribute and share in society's benefits and burdens.

☆Communism means abolishing racism and the concept of "race." Capitalism uses racism to super-exploit Black, Latin, Asian and indigenous workers, and to divide the entire working class.

☆Communism means abolishing the special oppression of women— sexism—and divisive gender roles created by the class society.

☆Communism means abolishing nations and nationalism. One international working class, one world, one Party.

☆Communism means that the minds of millions of workers must become free from religion's false promises, unscientific thinking and poisonous ideology. Communism will triumph when the masses of workers can use the science of dialectical materialism to understand, analyze and change the world to meet their needs and aspirations.

☆Communism means the Party leads every aspect of society. For this to work, millions of workers — eventually everyone — must become communist organizers. Join Us!

CONTACT US

Email
desafio.challenge@gmail.com
Mail
Box 808 GPO, Brooklyn, NY 11202
Internet
www.plp.org
challengenewspaper.wordpress.com
Twitter: @PLPchallenge
Facebook: Challenge Desafio

WHO WRITES FOR CHALLENGE?

CHALLENGE is for the working class, produced by the working class. The fact that CHALLENGE/PLP articles are not signed grows from PLP's criticism of the cult of the individual in the former socialist Soviet Union and China. We do not want to encourage the possibility of building up a "following" around any particular individual.

While an article may be written by one person, the final version is based on collective discussion and criticism. Many times this collective discussion even precedes an individual's writing of an article.

CHALLENGE/DESAFIO (ISSN 0009-1049) published bi-weekly by Challenge Periodicals. 1 issue $1. One Year: $20. Six months: $15. Send address changes to CHALLENGE Periodicals, GPO Box 808 Brooklyn, NY 11202, July 24, 2019•Volume 51 No. 15

Editorial

G20 Summit highlights U.S. split & decay

The recent G20 Summit in Osaka, Japan, highlighted the escalating battle between two packs of U.S. bosses. The main wing U.S. finance capitalists were hit by both the domestic U.S. bosses, fronted by President Donald Trump, and by Russian capitalists led by President Vladimir Putin. In response, the big U.S. imperialists are trying to rally what's left of their alliance in the European ruling class to counter expansionist moves by Russian and Chinese rulers.

The volatile dynamic between these U.S. factions is accelerating a worldwide drive toward fascism. The desperate U.S. main wing (the Big Fascists) sees its empire slipping away. But they won't give it up without a fight. With the bosses heading toward World War III, Progressive Labor Party calls on the working class to battle for our own class interests. PLP is building an international communist movement to fight for a revolutionary communist society. It's our only alternative to the bosses' rising fascism, chaos, and destruction.

Putin attacks liberal world order

In an interview on the first day of the summit, the blood-soaked Putin openly challenged the U.S. main wing. He declared that "the world's liberal political order had outlived its purpose" (New York Times, 6/28). In attacking the liberal world order led by the U.S. main wing ruling class since World War II, Putin signaled that Europe is up for grabs.

Trump, who is backed by the isolationist, domestically oriented wing of U.S. capitalists, joined the Russian president in jokes at the U.S. liberal bosses' expense (BBC News, 6/28). Trump also staged a sit-down with Mohammed bin Salman, the ruthless crown prince of Saudi Arabia, despite a United Nations report confirming that bin Salman was responsible for the savage killing of Washington Post reporter Jamal Khashoggi, a main wing voice at the Washington Post (The Guardian, 6/19).

Finance rulers call for war in Europe

In the face of expanding influence by Russian and Chinese bosses in Europe, the main wing U.S. capitalists are rallying their allies in Europe's finance capitals. The ruling French and German finance bosses used their tenuous victory in May's European Parliament elections to install pro-main wing bureaucrats at the head of the European Union.

German Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen, an Angela Merkel protégé who backs a strong European military, was appointed president of the EU's executive body. Christine Lagarde, chief of the U.S.-dominated International Monetary Fund, was nominated as the next head of the European Central Bank. Though splits inside the bosses' camp are significant, the finance capitalists are consolidating their power and doing their best to bolster their old NATO alliance. As the Council on Foreign Relations, U.S. finance capital's leading think tank, points out, the stakes are high:

> *The more internally divided Europe is, the more it will find itself at the mercy of … great powers [Russia and China]. This is a recipe for a Europe once again roiled by nationalism, an EU that is irrelevant, and a transatlantic alliance in which Europe has little influence and the United States lacks a strong partner…The only prudent way to avoid this nightmare scenario is for Europe to … develop the ability to better defend itself … pursue common European interests … [and] do more to secure neighboring regions (*Foreign Affairs, July/August 2019).

Big Fascists use climate movement to enlist the working class

In 2017, the isolationist U.S. bosses, who have significant holdings in heavy-polluting domestic fossil fuels, pushed Trump to pull out of the Paris climate agreement negotiated by predecessor Barack Obama, a reliable stooge for the main wing. Now finance capital is back on the offensive. Emmanuel Macron, the French president and former Rothschild investment banker, threatened "not to sign any joint statement from the Group of 20 summit … unless it deals with the [climate] issue, which he called a 'red line'" (New York Times, 6/26).

Key Terms

Main wing finance capitalists are committed to a global land war to keep U.S. dominance over the world's oil and other resources. This wing built what they call "the liberal world order," aka the U.S. imperialist empire. ExxonMobil, the Rockefellers, and JP Morgan Chase spearhead the main-wing bosses. This dominant wing are the Big Fascists.

Domestically oriented capitalists in the U.S. don't want to make the sacrifices (e.g., higher taxes) that such a war will require. Spearheaded by the Koch and Mercer families, they are contesting the main wing's control. This subordinate group are the Little Fascists.

Liberal environmentalism is on the rise. The Sunrise Movement and its Green New Deal, championed by phony leftist Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, was incubated at the Sierra Club (E&E News, 12/3/18), where the agenda is driven by main wing billionaire donors like Michael Bloomberg and finance capital nonprofits like Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors (opensecrets.org).

From its start, the environmental movement was designed to force smaller domestic capitalists to fall in line. In 1970, the main wing Ford Foundation began funding the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Environmental Defense Fund, the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, and the Southern California Center for Law in the Public Interest. "In the ensuing years, [these groups]…advocated …for environmental protection on virtually every public policy issue at the federal, state, and local level" (Duke Center for Strategic Philanthropy and Civil Society). Environmentalism is a partisan issue because "any attempt to regulate pollution is an attempt…to regulate the economy" (medium.com 1/26/17)—and because regulations hit the small capitalists much harder than the big ones.

But the environmental movement isn't just about the economy. Back in 2002, after the Sierra Club backed the U.S. invasion of Iraq over phantom "weapons of mass destruction," the organization threatened to dissolve its southern Utah chapter for "speaking out against the Bush administration's push toward war" (Huffington Post 5/25/2011). To protect their control over Middle East oil, the finance capitalists were willing to sacrifice the lives of more than a million workers and children in Iraq. Now their targets are the Chinese and Russian rulers, plus the "Fortress America" U.S. bosses who are against committing taxes and treasure to an expensive global conflict. If history is a guide, the environmental movement will help sound the main wing's battle cry.

A fight between monsters

The rulers' cynicism knows no limits. The misleaders now beating the drum on the environment represent the same profit-mad bosses who built their fortunes by ruining our air, water, and food. They are the same animals who poisoned the children of Flint, Michigan. They are the same monsters who drowned the Ninth Ward of New Orleans to protect their French Quarter investments—and then exploited the tragedy to gentrify other formerly Black working-class neighborhoods.

When (and if) they prevail over their capitalist rivals, the main wing will use fascism to attack the working class. It was finance capital that funded Hitler and gave him the poison gas used in the Nazi death camps. It was finance capital that dropped Agent Orange and napalm on the children of Vietnam. It's not just misguided to trust the liberal bosses. It is suicidal!

Are Trump and his Koch brother benefactors a gang of racist murderers? Without a doubt. They are enemies of our class and must be fought to the end. But we cannot allow fear of these Little Fascists to drive us into the deadly embrace of finance capital, into the camp of Nancy Pelosi or Joe Biden or Elizabeth Warren. The Big Fascists have a long and ugly history of slaughtering masses of workers, all in the name of liberal democracy.Our fight must be for our class. It must be against our oppressors. Most of all, it must be for communism!✪

Fight racist borders like a communist!

shelters nearby.

Continued from page 1

Three leaflets were written and translated in one day for use through the week.Study groups and forums helped a new generation of young leaders achieve greater unity and understanding of how inter-imperialist rivalry is driving divisions in ruling classes worldwide and the danger that liberal misleaders backed by main-wing finance capitalists planning World War III present the gravest danger to the international working class.

Thugs in blue try to intimidate

In addition to the contradictions of the liberals, the police, true to fascist form, broke their promises to work with the rally organizers and proved that they were there to serve the bosses. From the jump, there was a heavy police presence. From kkkops standing among us in the crowd with Blue Lives Matter patches on their sleeves to squad cars cruising up and down the dirt road, whirring police sirens and ordering us to clear the already cleared pathway.

They cruised slowly up and down the main dusty road in front of the center in large black SUVs, inches away from protesters. They periodically interrupted the speakers with sirens and admonishments to "clear the road" and operated a drone over the crowd to identify demonstrators. Although we abided, police still called tow trucks without warning and ordered more officers to the ground, blocking both ends of the road in military fashion. At the close of the protest, three people were arrested and two cars were towed.

Leave the flags where they belong...in the gutter

When the contradictions of liberals are pointed out and acknowledged, especially by communists, workers and youth lean further left. Several dozen hand-held American flags the rally organizers planned to distribute went un-used, as the political tone we established made it clear that US nationalism and patriotism would not be well received by the crowd.

Workers won to these ideas will carry out mass murder overseas and, in the end, endorse a border regime of biometric fascism that will make Trump's border wall look like child's play as long as it adheres to the liberal fantasy of the "rule of law." Due to our ability to boldly inject a communist alternative to the liberal misleadership on display, working class internationalism achieved a small but important symbolic victory over nationalism and patriotism, as the U.S. flag remained on the ground, where it belongs, like the flags of all bosses' nations.New forces committed to raising the red flag of the revolutionary international working class were forged over the past week!✪

Firsthand reports from youth building solidarity

The following letters are from young participants of the Texas Summer Project (see page 1 and 8). More letters next issue.

We went to a church shelter for migrant workers in Texas to volunteer and engage politically with other volunteers and migrant workers. Many migrant workers were single parents with children, mostly from the Congo, Haiti and Central America. The church hosts them for the night before they go to the homes of family members or friends, or other places to await their deportation trials.

We set up cots, distributed blankets and clothes, and organized the supply closet. The cot system had people pushed up against each other with little to no personal space. We pointed this out, engaged in a bit of struggle with the church leaders with the help of several other volunteers, and finally convinced them to set a few cots to the side and give a little more room. This was just one example of how we can help a little with people's immediate situation, and also engage in struggle that can develop over time into a struggle for class-consciousness.

Many volunteers wanted to help migrant workers but did not see themselves as part of one united working class. We all wanted to help the migrant workers, of course, but when you see them as your working class brothers and sisters you fight just that much harder for them to be treated with respect, just as you would want your own family members to be treated. The other volunteers appreciated this and we were able to get their contact info.

As we showed the migrant workers to the rooms and distributed supplies, we also tried to ask them about the situations in their home countries and relate their struggles to other struggles of the international working class. Many arrived with very few possessions, stories about terrible situations in their home countries, and only a family member's number to call when they got here. Whenever possible, we tried to discuss the line of the Progressive Labor Party (PLP) as well. We discussed how decades of U.S. imperialism in Latin America and around the world have led to this forced migration for millions of people and how we should fight for a better system for the world's workers. We wrote down contact info for migrant workers who will be going to cities with a PLP presence so that they can connect with comrades there. We hope that this helps to grow the Party and change this horrible system to a system that treats all workers with respect, communism.

★★★★★

At a study group we had a presentation on U.S. imperialism's 100+ year invasion of Central America. The U.S. invaded nine Latin American and Caribbean countries and controlled them for 36 years to protect the profits for food barons like Chiquita and Dole. They also funded dictators, cronies, and death squads before, during, and after the Cold War. Currently, Guatemala and Honduras have staunchly pro-U.S. pro-corporate presidents, which has fueled the drug dealers and gangs terrorizing the workers in Central America and forcing them to flee to the United States. My take away from the discussion is that liberals are FATAL to the working class. In Guatemala the Communist Party relied on liberal non-communist president Jacobo Arbenz to redistribute land for workers and peasants. He was overthrown in 1954 by Eisenhower's CIA gang, the Dulles Brothers, resulting in a 36 year civil war and the deaths of 200,000 indigenous Mayan workers. The communists trusted "Socialist" reformer President Salvador Allende, who refused to arm workers which led to the 1973 coup by Pinochet and his goon squad resulting in 30,000 lives gone.

For me, seeing these tragedies reminded me of the Obama Administration. The fake leftists relied on the Democrats to punish Wall Street and give amnesty for undocumented workers. Instead, he deported more immigrants, slashed wages, started five wars in the Middle East and Africa, and made Americans more cynical paving the way for Trump. Right now all of the Democrats (Beto, Castro, Sanders) are giving out recycled slogans, promising migrants and their families to keep them together and trying to get liberal votes for 2020. What we have to do as communists is to help workers dump the liberal bosses and help them join their documented and undocumented brothers and sisters to smash borders and build communism.

★★★★★

I traveled to Texas for the summer project and the experience was jarring. I am an 18-year-old High School graduate who lives in New York City. What I saw was unacceptable: kids held in immigration camps, families separated, afraid, and lost without knowing how to get help. What I saw is the exact opposite of the so-called "American Dream."

Immigrant workers are merely tools for the U.S. economy, paid minimally with terrible working conditions. Women are forced to drink from toilets. Children are held in concentration camps worse than jails. As a working class, we must stick together and fight back against the oppressive government that hides the reality through Propaganda.

On the first day in Texas, I went to a shelter/resource center for migrants. I got there early enough to see that families were sleeping on the floor in an overcrowded room. I also saw each immigrant lining up to use the sink in a dirty janitorial closet. They were each given minimal amount of food, enough to barely survive. On the plate they were served a bottle of water one egg, one sausage, one piece of bread, and a quarter of an orange.

There was this father and son who managed to travel from Honduras. They spoke Spanish. I learned they left their family behind for a better life. The son was 15 and he loved learning. He showed us he learned to make a bracelet and gave it to my friend as a way for her to remember him. The family was one of the nicest people I have ever met and it's wrong that they have barely any food, no money, and no shelter. I wasn't aware the hardships immigrants are faced with, until I saw it.

The summer project with Progressive Labor Party (PLP) was educational. It taught me that the bosses control capitalism. They exploit the working class as each country works to benefit their economy. When the U.S. needed workers they allowed immigrants to work for the economy. The bosses use and abuse workers as they see fit. Furthermore, capitalism has problems that only communism can fix. There wouldn't be racism, starvation, and sexism. Many problems would be solved as communism focuses on everyone working together.

★★★★★

CUNY struggle builds student worker solidarity

"7K or strike" was the chant heard outside in the hallway after a group of CUNY (City University of New York) faculty walked out together after a heated union meeting on Thursday night . Numerous militant speakers rose to talk against tuition hikes, for improved wages for adjuncts(part timers), and for a strike. Part timers, who receive poverty wages and are the majority of the teaching staff tried to get a resolution passed that would delay the contract vote until the fall. While unsurprisingly, the union leadership of the Professional Staff Congress (PSC) was able to squash that resolution, they got a taste of what an organized fightback looks like. PLP members and friends are part of this 7K or Strike Campaign and have organized our students to sign solidarity statements with the adjuncts.

What CUNY and the union leadership would like is for us to meekly accept continued starvation wages for part-time faculty and racist tuition increases for students. They would like for us to channel our furious anger at the crumbling infrastructure and decreasing services into pointless lobbying trips to Albany. They would like us to view the fact that, according to a recent survey, 48 percent of CUNY students are food insecure, 55 percent are housing insecure and 14 percent are homeless, as unavoidable parts of a capitalist system that we are powerless to change.(NYT 5/2 Tuition or Dinner?))

But workers and students, not just in CUNY but around the world continue to put the fightback on display, illustrating the enormous potential of the working-class. With communist leadership and discipline, we have the ability not just to change capitalism, but to smash it altogether. That is the message that members and friends of PL are bringing to CUNY students and workers.

CUNY Board of Trustees: racist goons

For all the hardship experienced by the faculty and staff at CUNY, the group that the racist CUNY Board of Trustees have targeted most viciously is the students. Their so-called "rational" tuition plan has seen tuition increase every semester since 2011. Yet, knowing full-well the statistics cited above about student food insecurity and homelessness, and knowing that most CUNY students have to watch every penny, they just voted to raise tuition by $200.

Good capitalists that they are, the CUNY Board has also invented the myth that the tuition increase is necessary to pay for "future labor costs." The CUNY annual budget is around $3.5 billion dollars. The notion that the small percentage increase needed for labor contracts must come from student tuition is idiotic. It's a purely political tactic, precisely designed to weaken student-faculty solidarity. Meanwhile, the silence coming from the PSC is deafening. Fearful that it will jeopardize whatever awful contract is offered by CUNY, they have sold out students in the most brazen way by refusing to condemn the tuition increase. Here also, the $7K or Strike campaign has revealed the collaborationist nature of the PSC leadership,by boldly calling out the tuition increase as racist.

PSC leadership sows disilusion

Beyond selling out the students, the PSC continues its campaign to disarm and disillusion its members. The writing is on the wall: the CUNY Trustees and Albany politicians continue to strangle the CUNY budget, and that's with the racist $200 tuition increase. Yet the PSC leadership asks its members to continue the same failing strategies over and over - beg and plead with politicians, travel to Albany, testify at hearings. At multiple union meetings across the university system activists have implored the PSC leadership to develop an alternate plan – a strike plan. Yet at tonight's meeting, even the most mild resolution – to delay any vote on a potential contract until after the summer break, giving the rank-and-file a chance to collectively discuss it – was attacked by the leadership and soundly defeated. They have systematically weakened any kind of union militancy and then have the nerve to declare that the contract timing is "fragile" and that we should not fight back.

The fight for $7K and the fight against tuition increases are critical, but history teaches us an unflinching truth: Reforms made under capitalism are fleeting - and replacing a president, a congressional representative, a governor, mayor or union president will never create a world where all workers can live with dignity in their jobs and at home. The U.S. ruling class faces an intractable need to discipline the working class and prepare for greater global conflict.

This need has not arisen because Trump is president or Republicans control the Senate or Cuomo is governor or Bill Thompson is Chair of the CUNY Board and certainly not because Barbara Bowen is PSC President. No, this need arises from the laws of imperialism and inter-imperialist rivalry. And it is this need that filters down to our working conditions and our students' learning conditions. It is this need that drives Cuomo and DeBlasio to strangle the CUNY budget and to raise tuition. None of these characters is relieved of their responsibility in heaping racist misery on workers to a greater or lesser degree. But replacing them is not the answer. We must replace the capitalist system that feeds and is fed by them. And that requires a communist revolution.✪

Letter: Student and teachers fight back to end racist random searches

The school board of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) just voted to end the racist "random search" policy that has been dehumanizing our youth since 1993. For 26 years, working class students of color were pulled out of class every day and faced intrusive searches that subjected them to the culture of criminalization that capitalism creates. Basic items would be confiscated such as markers, highlighters, white out and/or body spray. However, the LAUSD did not end this policy because of the annoyances it brought upon these students every day. They ended it because of pressure from anti-racist students, teachers, parents, and community members who fought against it for many years.

To fight the bosses is educate our youth

As a teacher and member of Progressive Labor Party (PLP), this struggle for me started about five years ago when a resolution was put forward in the teachers' union. This resolution proposed taking a stand against racist police brutality and it passed. As a result, the union's Racial Justice Committee was formed. Instead of this newly formed committee being a group that simply talked about racism, there was a struggle to take direct action against racist policies in schools, such as the aforementioned random search policy. We joined together with other students and community members and developed a long-term plan that consisted of educating ourselves about these issues by developing student curriculum, organizing forums, passing out flyers, and pushing for the union to fight to end random searches. This committee took direct action in the form of rallies, marches, and packing school board meetings.

There was a lot of resistance from educators worried about "safety,"and many also had racist ideas about Black and Latin students. There were also some problems that developed within the committee itself. For example, after Trump was elected, there was a serious debate over whether or not the fight against racism is also a fight that benefits white workers.

The ideology of "white privilege" was brought forward to contradict the communist view that the white working class's interests would be served by fighting racism, as it would break down the fabricated barriers that stop all of the working class from fighting together.

Some members agreed with us and have since been interested in reading CHALLENGE. Small issues such as lack of commitment and attacks from the administration slowed us down, but we continued to fight together and develop unity. The struggle continues with the skeptical teachers, but the few committee members who read CHALLENGE agree with us on many points and consider themselves to be on our side.

Don't fall for the bosses' reform game

The bosses attempted to reform their racist policies by suggesting safe school programs such as comprehensive restorative justice, psychologists, therapists and counselors, and the Safe Passage program. However, through strength and determination, our committee pushed for the LAUSD to end this policy entirely.

Although a great victory for our students, it's important to understand that reforms, no matter how progressive, will never eradicate the racist nature of this system. As long as capitalism remains, the need to criminalize and oppress working class youth will continue. In fact the bosses always seem to give us an inch to later cut off a mile, such that the next safe school policy they come up with may be more racist and fascist.

The education system itself is set up to teach youth to accept the bosses' control or face dire consequences. However, this fight will not end until we take down the capitalist system and replace it with a better system for working people, a communist system that teaches the working class our history and science, and truly educates our youth, so that they can help build a better world for all. The struggle continues!✪

Wayfair workers lead the way; reject liberal fascist bosses' trap!

BOSTON, MA—Hundreds of workers at Wayfair Inc. walked out against their company's sale of beds for an immigrant detention center that housed children at Carrizo Springs, Texas (the same detention center where the PLP held a summer project protest, page 1).Strikes and protests by workers against fascist detention centers can help build the movement to destroy capitalism. This fightback is a good example of what workers should do and we as a class must be wary of political misleadership that will not lead us to the only solution to destroying fascism: communist revolution.

Workers organize; bosses co-opt

When the workers realized that Wayfair was selling beds to BCFS, a contractor who supplied the immigrant concentration camps, about 550 of them signed a letter of protest. They made several demands: no more business with BCFS, donate profits to help reunite immigrant families and institute a code of ethics so this wouldn't happen again. The billionaire CEO Niraj Shah, a son of immigrants, rejected the demands and the workers decided, in the end, to have the walkout.

One of the walkout leaders was Maddie Howard, a Democratic Socialist. No surprise then that Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Rashida Tlaib, both Democratic Socialist congressional representatives, supported the action with AOC tweeting: "[t]his is what solidarity looks like — a reminder that everyday people have real power, as long as we're brave enough to use it."

Through this struggle, many Wayfair workers have begun seeing through the so-called apolitical nature of big business. Some of them said, "If this is how the free market works, I don't like it."

They also saw how workers make the system run: if we withhold our labor, the fascist machine can't function. These insights are powerful when taken to their final conclusion: workers can run society in our interests without the need of the bosses' capitalist system! Then and only then will there be no borders and no children dying in concentration camps.

Liberal bosses the main danger

Instead, the Democratic Socialists and the big liberal fascists they have tied their movement to offer misleadership. They mainly criticize Trump's overt and gutter style of fascism. They don't point out that Barack Obama, the deporter in chief, built these concentration camps and imprisoned entire families including women and children. The liberal fascists built these cages! And, they just voted to fund even more camps and more cages. More children will die. The liberal fascists don't push Trump's border wall. They push an even more dangerous option: biometric screenings, drone surveillance and better technology at the border. This means more death as desperate immigrant workers will take riskier routes through deserts to avoid these traps.

These big liberal fascists push the ideas of reforming capitalism. They try to convince workers that this despicable and inhumane system can be made to function for us. That as U.S. imperialism ravages the world with bombs, hunger and chaos, it can be taught to respect human rights! That we can have "just" borders.

This is why the Progressive Labor Party warns the working class: the big Liberal Fascist wing of the ruling class and the parties they control are our biggest threat. They will try and mobilize us to support their brand of fascism as they mobilize our young people in their multi-cultural, multi-gendered Armed Forces for the upcoming wars against their ascendant and resurgent rivals: China and Russia.✪

LEFT FORUM

Build a mass multiracial party for communism

BROOKLYN, JUNE 30—"What's your strategy to organize the left in the United States?" asked a young man who was a part of the Yellow Vest movement in Paris as he approached our Progressive Labor Party table this weekend at the Left Forum. (The Left Forum is a NYC-based event that seeks to "bring progressive people together to share radical ideas for social change.") Our international strategy is to build a base in the working class and focus on organizing a mass party with workers, students, and soldiers. Only a revolutionary communist party of millions can turn the coming imperialist world war into a war for communism, a society totally run by the working class.

So organizing a revolution for communism will take tens of millions of workers, students, and soldiers worldwide. And that will take a worldwide party of millions. Not an easy task. "Organizing the left" certainly won't do it. But it was useful to reach out; you never know when you might meet someone who will join the fight for communism.

Black workers' leadership key to communist revolution

PLP participated in this three-day conference, attending various panels as well as organizing our own, Black Workers Key to Communist Revolution. Young Black and South Asian comrades led the panel. They explained how fighting anti-Black racism and uniting the entire working class, led by Black workers was key to organizing a communist revolution for working class power. Black and white, women and men, PLP and others, everyone participated.

Black workers have an especially urgent case to revolt and smash the bosses' state. Throughout U.S. history, from the time they were kidnapped from Africa as a pool of no-wage labor, they have served at the forefront of every working-class movement: the war against slavery, the struggle for civil rights, the mass strikes against the industrial bosses, the fights for jobs and housing and decent schools. Wherever workers have confronted the profit system and its parasites, Black workers have stood at the front lines. Wherever Black workers gave leadership, our entire class stood to benefit and gain class-consciousness as a result.

Anti-Black racism is deeply rooted. It is the very foundation of the U.S. Empire. More than 500

years after Europe's colonial powers first invaded the Americas, racism exists for one reason: the division and oppression generates billions upon billions in profit for the capitalists. If our class is to seize and hold state power throughout the world, Black workers and their leadership are fundamental to destroy racism.

No matter where you are in the world, fighting anti-Black racism and recruiting the most oppressed part of the working class to the highest level of leadership must be part and parcel to our fight against capitalism.

Rainbow fascism

Contrast communist Black leadership with the bosses' call for liberal leadership. Many agreed that the liberal bosses were the main danger. One young Black worker did not like our criticism of the Democratic Socialists, particularly Alexandria Ocasio Cortez (AOC). This was a discussion of how these "socialists" may get a few crumbs for the working class, but they support the capitalist system and they especially always support the capitalists' imperialist wars. Because AOC is doing the bidding of the U.S. imperialists, she has an interest in building a multicultural patriotic army willing to die for this empire.

Trump can't deliver that. Following the liberal politicians disarms our class, the working class, and allows capitalism to build all-class unity (a characteristic of fascism). Instead, we must rely on only our class for leadership.

Everyone left the panel with CHALLENGE and a copy of the latest PL Magazine, which contains the article: "Black Workers Leadership Key to Communist Revolution" (see www.plp.org for your copy!). Self-critically, we could have done a better job at promoting the PLP panel.

Fight fascism today

PL'ers attended other panels to raise our political ideas. In the panel on national teacher strikes, PLP spoke about the historic, racist role the leadership of the United Federation of Teachers has played, our experiences in various reform struggles, and most importantly why, even if we win strikes, we must turn these battles into battles against capitalism. Our comments were warmly received and CHALLENGE was distributed.

Some PL'ers also attended a panel on the Abraham Lincoln Brigade and the Spanish Civil War. We learned about how the communist movement fought against fascism during the Second World War. Many people who were friends and relatives of those who volunteered in Spain to fight fascism attended the workshop. At the end of the discussion, a daughter of one of the Brigadistas said, "It's all fine and good to talk about how our families fought fascism then, but the glaring question is what are we doing today?" A PLP member brought up the Texas Summer Project and our fight at the border (see front page). Applause and thank yous broke out from the audience.

Raise the flag of communism

We must take advantage of any and all opportunities. We have to fight for our line everywhere. So while we spent the weekend meeting and talking to people who believe in everything from supporting the right "socialist" candidate to identity politics, our presence is important. PLP met quite a few people who are former members, who spoke very highly of their experiences, and were very glad to see us. Overall, we distributed 200 CHALLENGEs and other literature.

At the next Left Forum, PLP will again raise the red flag of communist revolution!✪

LETTER

We encourage all CHALLENGE readers to send in letters and articles about their experiences fighting the bosses worldwide.

PLP fights for communism at the Marxist Literary Group conference

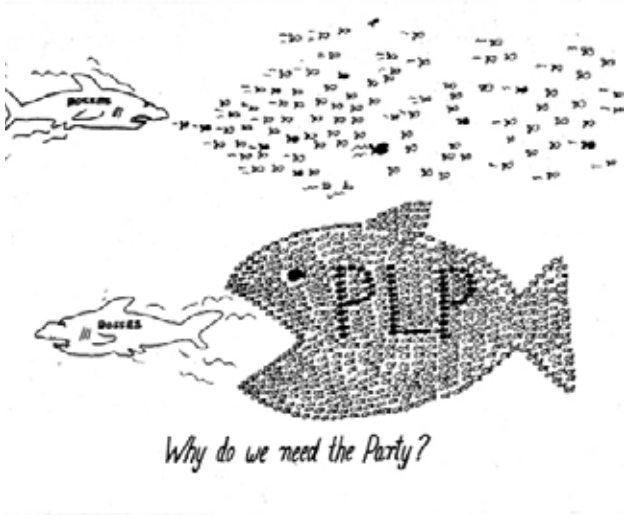
Against a backdrop of capitalist crisis with rising racism and fascism and risk of world war, Progressive Labor Party (PLP) members joined more than 100 scholars at the 2019 conference of the 50-year-old Marxist Literary Group (MLG). As communists, we were there to face these challenges together with our fellow-workers, also encouraging them to join us in the long-term revolutionary struggle to fight for an egalitarian communist world.

During the six-day conference, we heard 70 papers, presented the Party views, and took part in six reading groups. We signed up seven friends to work through our unions on solidarity with migrating workers, gave more than a dozen copies of CHALLENGE to friends, and formed new friendships.

PLP professors and graduate students have worked at the MLG for more than two decades, earned people's respect, and learned that many Marxist thinkers believe that communism is a good idea. The need to join a revolutionary party to fight for communism, however, has been a further reach for many. Still, in recent years, the intensifying capitalist crisis, including within the university, has made the discussion of organization and the need for a party a topic of more serious discussion. Many graduate students attending MLG know that as new PhDs they will compete for scarce full-time tenure-track college jobs and may well face a lifetime of adjuncting or leaving the profession, their dreams of producing new knowledge shattered. CHALLENGE has had many articles on this university crisis, highlighting the struggles of both students fighting racism, debt, and rising tuition, as well as those of low-paid adjunct lecturers. These adjuncts do the bulk of university teaching, earning around $20,000 per year for a full course load, often without benefits.

For intellectuals the future lies only in a revolutionary alliance with the working class. We must learn from the power of the insurgent global working class as we point the way to a communist future. A million workers and students protesting in Khartoum, two million in Hong Kong, the biggest general strike in history in India, a new revolutionary party in South Africa based on the largest union on the continent, 80 million refugees worldwide fighting like hell just to stay alive. Let's build toward a communist world in which workers will learn to become intellectuals and intellectuals will learn to become workers, until no such division of labor remains to hold back our common creativity. Join PLP and make this long march out of racism, fascism, and war, to abolish capitalism.

★★★★★



Zina Portnova, teenage communist hero

Capitalist history textbooks rarely tell us real working-class history. They especially don't teach us about the countless working-class heroes. One such hero is Zinaida Portnova, or "Zina" for short, a Soviet teenager, Soviet partisan, and hero of the Soviet Union under leader Joseph Stalin.

She was known for killing over 100 Nazis by poison. She is said to have shot the Nazi detective who captured her. Zina was born on February 20, 1926 in the city of Leningrad in a working-class Belarusian family. Her father Martyn worked at the huge Kirov factory. She graduated from seventh grade in 1941, then left for her grandmother's home in in the countryside.

Nazis invade USSR, Zina becomes a red

At the beginning of June 1941, she arrived for school holidays in the village of Zui, near the Obol station of the Shumilino district of the Vitebsk region. When the Nazis invaded the USSR on June 22, 1941, Zina found herself in Nazi-occupied territory. She was forced to watch as soldiers beat her grandmother for their cattle.

In 1942, she became a member of the local underground resistance "Young Avengers" headed by Yefrosinya Zenkova (who was a leader of the Komosol, the youth division of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union). Zina committed herself to communism.

She began by distributing Soviet propaganda leaflets in German-occupied Belorussia, collecting and hiding weapons for Soviet soldiers, and reporting on German troop movements. After learning how to use weapons and explosives, Portnova participated in sabotage actions at a pump, local power plant, and brick factory.

Zina poisons a 100 Nazis

She got herself a job working in the kitchens of a nearby Nazi garrison. On the instructions of the underground she poisoned the soup, which resulted in the deaths of many high-ranking officials. Soviet sources say more than 100 Nazi scum died.

The Nazis began a search for intruders. Zina claimed that she was innocent and ate some of the food in front of the Nazis to prove it was not poisoned. When she did not fall ill immediately, they released her. She managed to survive this after being treated with grass broth antidote at her grandmothers house. However, after this it was too dangerous for her to remain in the village, and

Soviet painting depicting Zina reaching for the Nazi interrogaters' pistol before shooting him with it.

Zina was later transferred to the fighting partisan detachment.From August 1943, she was a member of the Kliment Voroshilov scout partisan detachment. In December 1943, returning from an assignment to discover the reasons for the failure of the Young Avengers organization, she was captured in the village of Mostysche.

Reports of her escape vary. One version is that, during Gestapo interrogation in the village of Goriany, she took the investigator's pistol off the table, then shot and killed him. When two Nazi soldiers entered after hearing the gunshots, she shot them as well. She then attempted to escape the compound and ran into the woods, where she was caught near the banks of a river.

Another version is that the Gestapo interrogator, in a fit of rage, threw his pistol to the table after threatening to shoot her. Taking the pistol, Portnova shot him. Escaping through the door, she shot a guard in the corridor, then another in the courtyard. After the pistol misfired when Portnova attempted to shoot a guard blocking her access to the street, she was captured. After that the Nazis tortured her for more than a month, trying to get information about the partisans. On the morning of January 10, 1944, she was shot, either in the prison of the city of Polotsk or in the village of Goryany.

Remember Zina

Today there are two monuments standing for her, a bust in Minsk near where she was born and an obelisk in Obol where she was killed.

Zina's story is one of working-class bravery. Trained by communists, she clearly had a deep hatred for the Nazis and a deeper love for the working class. Her story shows that young people can be thinkers and fighters for a better world. ✪

BOOK REVIEW

Beat back the white supremacists

In *Bring the War Home*, Kathleen Belew exposes the broad, coordinated nature of the U.S. gutter racist and fascist "white power" movement and its responsibility for many killings by so-called "lone wolves." The white supremacist movement itself is a loose collection of many racist, nationalist and anti-communist groups from the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) to neo-Nazis to militias and is a part of how U.S. capitalism maintains control over the working class through racism.

Federal agencies in the U.S. have long known of the white supremacist movement's mass base, but they have not responded proportionately. Although Belew sees violent fascism as a consequence of a violent U.S. foreign policy, she does not consider that the growth of extreme racism is useful to the ruling class or contrast their undersized response with the aggressive targeting of foreign-inspired terrorism and antiracists.

She also does not discuss anti-racist opposition to white supremacists, much of which has been led by the communist Progressive Labor Party (PLP) for decades all over the country. Communists fight to unite the entire working class to smash this racist, sexist, imperialist system and build a communist world, run by the international working class. This proudly makes the communist PLP the sworn enemy of racists everywhere!

History of white supremacists

While gutter racist mass movements have been nurtured by the U.S. ruling class since the 1860s U.S. Civil War, the latest surge in racist activism began after the 1960s Vietnam War. Some veterans resented racial integration in the army and bought the U.S. government lies about fighting communism. The post-Vietnam racists built paramilitary camps in nine states and launched many attacks, while suffering few arrests or convictions. In 1979, they killed five leftist anti-KKK demonstrators in Greensboro, North Carolina, while the cops did nothing. Belew attributes this only to poor command and miscommunications.

By 1993, white supremacist groups unified and started getting out of the U.S. government's control, declaring their goal of eventually seizing the government for themselves. They began to counterfeit and steal money and encouraged attacks on infrastructure and the assassination of federal agents and judges. Tactically, they developed a terrorist model of small leaderless cells of one to five persons, with communications through print media and the internet.

When the increasingly militarized U.S. police of the 90s attacked two white supremacist centers with tactics previously limited to poor Black communities, and killed women and children, the racists had another surge in membership. One recruit was a terrorist named Timothy McVeigh, who blew up the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma, killing 168 people. Belew fails to consider that extreme racism has a value in this nation birthed in slavery and still home to massive racial discrimination.

The U.S. depends on racism to keep workers divided and save trillions on lower wages and social spending in non-white communities, which in turn lowers standards for all workers. Not only do these extremists help keep racist ideas and practices alive, but they allow the more liberal politicians to be mildly critical and so appear less racist themselves. And, while the history presented by Belew is important, the author fails to contrast this picture of a growing white supremacist movement only occasionally facing police opposition with the intense police efforts to infiltrate and control antiracist and leftist organizing.

In 1967, the FBI Counterintelligence Program began COINTELPRO–BLACK HATE, which focused on Martin Luther King Jr.'s Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and many antiracist groups with Black workers. The FBI's Ghetto Informant Program disrupted or discredited similar antiracist organizations, and similar programs still exist today.

What of the antiracist opposition?

There have been many instances of successful antiracist actions against white supremacist groups, many led by PLP. Throughout the 1970s until today, among many confrontations, PLP has invaded the Nazi headquarters in Chicago, disrupted racist radio broadcasts in Kansas City and KKK demonstrations in Texas. We smashed the Klan in Boston, stood up against armed Klansmen in Mississippi, and infiltrated and attacked the racists in downtown New York City and Morristown, New Jersey, among a proud and militant history of other actions. Klan leader Bill Wilkerson even declared in the 1980s that PLP was the main barrier they faced in building their movement

Yet if law enforcement is present at white supremacist events, those injured or arrested are more likely to be antiracists than racists. This was the case in 2016, when PLP demonstrators were injured and arrested in Anaheim, California while knife-wielding racists went free. In 2017, a massive group of racists was met by an even larger group of protestors in Charlottesville, and the police did little. One racist was convicted later for killing a white woman anti-racist, an act too despicable to be ignored.

The ruling class needs racists

Although the fascist right accounts for 73 percent of extremist murders, they are rarely labeled hate crimes or terrorism; unlike how the racist capitalist media regularly portrays Muslim workers. Trump has rescinded grants to organizations countering white supremacy, and the Department of Homeland Security has disbanded its analyst group on domestic terrorism.

Now that the U.S. is closer to fascism, the President can openly embrace racist thugs. Even if liberal Democrats win the presidency in 2020, the history of all politicians, even Black ones, should not give us hope that violent racists will be made to account. Only by building multiracial relationships and struggles ourselves and vigorously opposing the ideas and actions of white supremacy and nationalism can we defeat racist divisions and violence. Only by making a communist revolution can we guarantee that racism will be eliminated once and for all!✪

RED EYE ON THE NEWS . . .

Below are excerpts from the capitalist press that may be of use for our readers.
NYT=New York Times
GW= Guardian Weekly

Chemical pollution: another racist killer for 50 years

NYT, 6/30 — St. John the Baptist is a rectangle of modest homes [near New Orleans] bounded by the Mississippi River on one side and a large factory on the other. For years, the people living there… suffered a disproportionate share of health problems, including immune disorders, respiratory distress, headaches, heart troubles and cancers….

A [2015] report from the Environmental Protection Agency showed…St. John had by far the highest risk of cancer from air pollution in the nation. Nationwide the risk of cancer from chemicals emitted by industrial facilities was about 30 for every million people. In this small neighborhood, it was more than 800.

A vast majority…was coming from a colorless gas called chloroprene that the nearby synthetic rubber factory has been emitting since 1969….

Three chemicals cause a large majority of the elevated cancer risk from air pollution around the country: chloroprene, ethylene oxide and formaldehyde….

…In the absence of federal action (which predates the current administration)…affected residents…take on local polluters. In Willowbrook, ILL, a well-to-do white suburb of Chicago….after residents protested, their state environmental agency closed the factory, which had used the chemical to sterilize medical equipment….A community group also formed in St. John to protest the air pollution in 2016. But there, where 90 percent of residents were African-American and per capital income is just over $17,000 a year, those protests have largely fallen on deaf ears….

The third biggest contributor to the elevated cancer risk nationwide, formaldehyde,….is used in building materials, glue and fabrics, and has been linked to cancers….The Trump appointee who now oversees the EPA's IRIS division,…used to represent formaldehyde manufacturers on a panel of the American Chemistry Council, as the director of policy and regulatory affairs for Koch Industries….just another example of a government working to profit this industry. But for some in St. John, the failure to act is a matter of life and death….

Protest Obama-Trump migrant concentration camps

NYT, 6/23 — Fort Sill, Okla. — For Satuki Ina,… born in a Japanese-American internment camp during World Wear II,…that the United States would detain undocumented migrant children at this Army base…felt like a wallop from the past….

The base…once held 700 Japanese-Americans who lived in tents in desert-like heat, surrounded by barbed wire and guards…among the more than 100,000…of Japanese ancestry…rounded up by the government…in…camps around the country.

Ms. Ina and more than 200 demonstrators arrived at Fort Sill…to protest the government's latest plan…to house 1,400 undocumented children…in the United States without a parent or legal guardian….The Obama administration held several thousand immigrant children at Fort Sill in 2014. Ms. Ina protested then, too….

…The facilities…are operating well past their capacities….In the 19th century, the Army held hundreds of Chiricahua Apache warriors [there]….Geronimo was one of them and is buried at the base... Ms. Ina and others at the protest… shouted "No more concentration camps!..."

"There are many similarities that resonate through our own experiences," Ms. Ina said...We had family separation and indefinite detention. We suffered long-term health problems and mental health problems long afterward."

Racist mistreatment of Black patients pervades U.S. history

NYT, 6/30 — [Black people] have suffered from health care disparities over the whole history of [the U.S.], usually in the form of lack of access or undertreatment. A 2017 study found that in New York City, African-Americans were significantly underrepresented in the best hospitals, even after controlling for insurance coverage.

African-Americans, including children, are more often undertreated for pain compared with their white counterparts. While 74 percent of white patients with bone fractures in an Atlanta emergency room received pain medications, 57 percent of African-Americans did. African-American children with appendicitis were one-fifth as likely to receive opioid medications for pain, a cornerstone of care, as white children. Such inequities, the manifestations of implicit bias and institutional racism, are only the tip of the iceberg.

TEXAS PROJECT FIGHTS BORDERS, BUILDS COMMUNISTS

TEXAS, JULY 7—The Progressive Labor Party organized 50 workers and youth against capitalist borders during a summer project here. The focus of our fight was a call to unite against racist borders and anti-immigrant racism. We strengthened our commitment to multiracial unity of the working class and the struggle for communist revolution to destroy capitalism.

Every year, PLP and friends join to fight collectively in an area of focus—to connect struggles, grow our organization, and develop young leaders. Throughout the week, we demonstrated, volunteered, distributed CHALLENGE and leaflets, engaged in workshops and discussions and strengthened our relationships with each other.

Internationalism on July 4

After the protest against the new concentration camp in Carrizo Springs (see front page), we took the fightback to the Texas-Mexico border. July fourth in the United States is a day of hyper nationalism and morid hypocrisy. PLP comrades countered the bosses fake holiday by staging a militant anti-July fourth demonstration, and distributing communist literature to workers and shop owners around the international pedestrian bridge.

Many stopped to read CHALLENGE right then and there. Several joined in on our march through the streets and at the corners where we stopped to chant and hear speeches prepared by our comrades—a call to unite all workers and smash all borders!

Again, PLP's commitment to international solidarity was proven by rallying directly at the border—connecting with workers who cross back and forth between the two countries on a daily basis. We urged them to take our message back to their families both here and in Mexico and beyond.

Solidarity with migrant families at the shelter

Throughout the week, PLP volunteered at a local shelter that housed migrant families who made the hellish journey from Mexico, Central America, the Congo, and Haiti. As many as 300 arrived every night. We served meals, played with children, and listened to many migrants share their experiences (see letters, page 3). We helped some make travel arrangements, for their journeys are far from over. Many are going to meet family already here—some are going to cities and states they never heard of.

Still, many are going to cities where they will face more racism, poverty, and exploitation. We ached for them, as they come to the U.S. with immense hope in having a chance at a new life. Ultimately, we learned from our fellow brothers and sisters, as their very presence once again shows the power workers hold in demonstrating their ability to defend themselves even in the harshest of conditions.

A week of learning

PLP also took to the streets in Texas, distributing CHALLENGE and leaflets to Toyota factory workers, passersby, shoppers, and shelter volunteers. We focused on spreading our sphere of influence and developing young leaders. Throughout the week, we engaged in discussions and workshops to increase and strengthen our understanding of intensifying inter-imperialist rivalry, its dependence on racism and nationalism to divide the working class with borders, and to prove further, the heightening danger of fascist liberalism.

We fortified our understanding with direct experience to take back to our schools, our jobs and our communities. We ended the week with a real Texas barbecue celebration, sharing our impressions and lessons learned from the week.

Rising fascism and liberals are main danger to workers

While liberal politicians may cry "keep families together" to appear concerned with the humanity of migrant workers and families seeking refuge, merely keeping families together in a detention center is a complete sham. They use the suffering of the migrant workers for their own cynical purposes. Just like president Donald Trump and his conservative cronies, U.S. liberal bosses have high stakes in exploiting the working class—they just use smoke and mirrors to do so. They want workers to forget that it was Barack Obama who deported more migrants than any other president. Obama authorized the construction of detention camps for children at the border. Obama created DACA to target Latin youth for military recruitment.

Thus, we cannot ignore that it is Obama's racist legacy that Trump's anti-immigrant administration is built upon. While Trump's administration uses open racism to mobilize its political base and fuel anti-immigrant sentiment, we must acknowledge that intensified racism, nationalism, and use of "law and order" to terrorize workers are strategies employed by a number of Democratic presidents—Obama, Clinton, Carter—and are a hallmark of rising fascism.

Worldwide, bosses are sliding towards wider war and the various national bosses are moving towards more fascism amid growing volatility. But, liberal fascists continue to insidiously mislead workers into believing they have our best interests at heart when they are agents of a violent system. They seek not to alleviate the exploitation of the working class, but to subdue workers with meaningless reforms. They seek not to unite workers in multiracial unity, but instead keep workers divided through identity politics. Time and time again, liberals screw workers over for power, profit and control. The working class shouldn't be fooled!

Communism means no racist borders

Our work in Texas this week reflected what communism means—workers' power, no racist borders, and no workers forced from their homes and families to find work. Our work this week reflected our dedication to building and strengthening PLP—and our fight to smash capitalism for good. We must unite and fight the increasing mass arrests of undocumented workers, ICE police raids on homes, jobs, military bases, bus stations and highways, mass detentions and deportations.

Same enemy, same fight, workers of the world unite! ¡El mismo enemigo, la misma lucha, los trabajadores del mundo se unen!

SUBSCRIBE or RENEW!

All the communist politics, news, and struggle from around the world!

one-year subscription: $20 individual $45 for institution

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Make check or money order to:
Challenge Periodicals,
PO Box 808, Brooklyn, NY 11202

FIGHT FOR COMMUNISM • LUCHE POR EL COMUNISMO • PLP